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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 5, 2003

Gunther O. Hanke, Reg. No. 32,989

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/825,673  
Applicant : Esch et al.  
Filed : April 3, 2001  
Art Unit : 3763  
Examiner : Kevin Sirmons

Docket No.: : CARDE.57307  
Customer No. : 27629

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action of September 8, 2003, the response for which is due December 8, 2003.

Amendment to the claims begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 5.